IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) An image pickup system for capturing the image of a subject, comprising:

an image pickup element that constitutes one image-captured surface by arranging a plurality of scanning lines having a first number of pixels;

a drive circuit for outputting, to the image pickup element, a drive signal with a first frequency for sequentially reading an image-captured signal image-captured on the image captured ~~pickup~~ surface of the image pickup element for every scanning line;

a line memory having a memory capacity, which can store one scanning line of image-captured signals read from the image pickup element;

a writing signal generating circuit for outputting a writing signal with the first frequency to the line memory [[and]] for writing the image-captured signal to the line memory;

a reading signal generating circuit for outputting a reading signal with a second frequency, which is higher than the first frequency, to the line memory [[and]] for reading image-captured signals stored in one scanning line from the line memory; and

a video signal processing circuit for performing video signal processing on the image-captured signals read with the second frequency from the line memory.

5. (Currently Amended) The image pickup system according to Claim 4, wherein the video signal processing circuit ~~means~~ has an enlarge/reduce processing function for performing horizontal enlargement or reduction.

6. (Currently Amended) The image pickup system according to Claim 5, further comprising:

superposing means for superposing an externally input image signal on an image-captured signal processed in the video signal processing circuit ~~means~~; and

superimposing position control means for controlling a superimposing position of the externally input image signal ~~superposing means~~ in accordance with an image pickup element self-contained in a [[the]] connected image pickup unit.

7. (Currently Amended) An image pickup system for imaging a subject, comprising:

a first image pickup unit self-containing a first image pickup element that constitutes one image-captured surface by arranging a plurality of scanning lines having a first number of pixels;

a first drive circuit provided in the first image pickup unit for outputting, to the first image pickup element, a first drive signal with a first frequency, which can sequentially read, for every scanning line, image-captured signals for one screen image-captured on the image-captured surface of the first image pickup element;

a first writing signal generating circuit for generating a first writing signal with the first frequency, which can sequentially write, for every scanning line, image-captured signals for one screen from the first image pickup element read by the first drive signal;

a second image pickup unit self-containing a second image pickup element that constitutes one image-captured surface ~~imaged screen~~ by arranging a plurality of scanning lines having a second number of pixels, which is larger than the first number of pixels;

a second drive circuit provided in the second image pickup unit for outputting, to the second image pickup element, a second drive signal with a second frequency, which can sequentially read, for every scanning line, image-captured signals for one screen image-captured on the image-captured surface of the second image pickup element;

a second writing signal generating circuit provided in the second image pickup unit for generating a second writing signal with the second frequency, which can sequentially write, for every scanning line, image-captured signals for one screen from the second image pickup element read by the second drive signal;

a camera control unit to which at least one of the first image pickup unit or the second image pickup unit [[are]] is connected freely removably,

a line memory provided in the camera control unit for sequentially storing image-captured signals for one scanning line from a connected image pickup unit based on a writing signal from the image pickup unit connected to the camera control unit;

a reading circuit for reading image-captured signals for one scanning line which are output and stored in the line memory, with the second frequency; and

a video signal processing circuit provided in the camera control unit for performing video-signal processing on the image-captured signals read with the second frequency from the line memory by using the reading circuit.